

REMARKS

In the office action dated March 9, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Liaw. The Examiner allowed claim 18 and stated that claims 3-17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base and intervening claims. The indication of allowable subject matter is appreciated. The Examiner suggested a new title. Reconsideration of the present application is requested in light of the above amendment and the following remarks.

Title:

The title is amended to be the same as that suggested by the Examiner.

Claim 3:

Claim 3 is amended to include the limitations of claims 1 and 2. Thus, claim 3 is believed to be allowable.

Claim 1:

In rejecting claim 1, the Examiner stated that Liaw teaches "forming a conductive shunt 72 in the substrate and extending between a node G1 at the upper surface of the substrate and the emitter region." According to Liaw, "metal layers 72 and 74 are formed as electrode regions at top and bottom respectively." (col. 3, lines 37-38, emphasis added). Thus, metal layer 72 is formed on top of all the layers instead of "in the substrate" as originally recited in claim 1. In order to further clarify the language and not to overcome Liaw, claim 1 is amended so that the conductive shunt has "at least a portion located inside the substrate." As a result, claim 1 is clearly distinguishable from Liaw. Thus, claim 1, as amended, is patentable.

Other Claims:

Other claims depend, directly or indirectly, from either claim 1 or 3. These two claims, as amended, are believed to be allowable. Thus, other claims are also believed to be allowable on at least the same basis.

Others:

The present application was filed with two sheets of PTO-1449. These are not included in the Office Action of Mar. 9. Return of signed PTO-1449 is respectfully requested.

It is believed that all grounds of rejection have been satisfactorily answered. The allowance of the present application is respectfully urged.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee for this filing to Deposit Account 50-2538 (docket number C-018-D-1).

Respectfully Submitted

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Hark Chan

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